8. Madhya Pradesh	1
9. Maharashtra	1
10. Orissa	1
11. Rajasthan	3
12. Tamil Nadu	2
13. Tripura	1
14. Uttr Pradesh	4
15. West Bengal	2
TOTAL :	32

Compensation to Bhopal Gas Tragedy Victims

1203. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 219 given in the Rajya Sabha on th 21st July, 1986 and state:

(a) whether a suit against the Union Carbide Corporation for compensation to the victims of the Bhopal Gas disaster has been filed in any Indain Court; and

(b) what is the amount spent so far by the Central Government and Madhya Pradesh Government respectively to help the victims of the Bhopal Gas disaster of 1984?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The plaint is expected to be finalised shortly and filed during the current month.

(b) The Central Government has so far released Rs. 55 crores as medium term loan to the State Government for relief and rehabilitation of Bhopal gas victims. Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that they have incurred an estimated expenditure of about Rs. 36 croes upto the end of March, 1986 on the relief and rehabilitation measures. This does not fully reflect the administrative and other expenditure incured in the assistance provided by all the Central and State oGvernment agencies involved, particularly in the acute phase, following the disaster, as well as the loans being given by the financial institutions to the victims for economic rehabilitation.

Compensation for Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims

1204. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRI J. P. GOYOL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for which Justice Keenan of the United States Court who is hearing a number of claim cases of Bhopal Gas Victims against the Union Carbide Corporation had discharged the cases; and

(b) whether any reasonable amount of compensation has been determined on which Govrnment are prepared to have a settlement with the Union Carbide Corporation and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The case has been dismissed by Justice Keenan on the ground of forum non convenience.

(b) Government is prepared to settle only for an amount which will provide full and fair compensation to all the claimants.

Licences for new industries in U.P. and Orissa

1205. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any new licences for the establishment of new industries in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa during 1986; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the number of licences issued to public and private sectors separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Undr the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, the following Industrial licences were granted during January—June, 1986 for Uttar Pradesh and Orissa state:—

Total number of industrial licences granted during Jan-June, 1986	Uttar Pradesh	Orissa
	40	5
Of the above licences granted for setting up of new undertakings	19	1
Of the total number o flicences granted, licences issued to :—		
(i) public sector undertakings including State Industrial Development Corpn.	5	2
(ii) private sector undertakings	35	3

Details of all industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

Post Offices in Kerala and Tamil Nadu

1206. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of post offices, sub-post offices and head post offices functioning in the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala as on date;

(b) how many new post offices, sub-post offices and head post offices are proposed to be opened during the next three years in these States;

(c) whether there is any proposal to close down any of the existing post offices, sub-post offices, head post offices in either State; if so, what are the details thereof and what criteria have been adopted in this regard;

(d) whether Government have received any memorandum against the closure of these post offices, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government will ensure that no post office, sub-post office, head post office in backward areas is closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The total number of post offices category wise in Tamil Nadu and Kerala Circles as on 1-5-86 is as follows:

	Tamil Nadu	Kerala
Head Post Offices	92	50
Sub Post Offices	3056	2027
Branch Post Offices	8846	2669
	11,994	4746

(b) There are no firm proposals at this stage for opening of new post offices in Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the next three years. In general terms, it can be said that the existing postal network in these States are adequate to the present requirements.

(c) There are regular procedures under which the cost, revenue and workload of postal establishments are reviewed from time to time with reference to prescribed norms and depending upon the results of reviews decisions are taken by appropriate authorities to reduce or increase the establishment or, in the case of temporary post offices, not to retain a post office. After such reviews it is possible that decisions may be taken not only in Kerala and Tamil Nadu but in other